

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

### 1. THAI BASES: STICKY "GENERAL PRINCIPLES"

IN A MEETING WITH FM CHATCHAI AND MFA UNDER SECRETARY ANAND, AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE WAS TOLD THE THAIS WANT QUICK AGREEMENT ON NEW "GENERAL PRINCIPLES" RATHER THAN CONTINUING WITH EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS WHILE NEW ONES ARE BEING NEGOTIATED. MAJOR DIFFERENCES EMERGED IN THE TALKS:

--THE IMPRECISE THAI "GENERAL PRINCIPLES" COULD LEAD TO UNACCEPTABLE THAI CONTROL OF US OPERATIONS.

--ANAND SEEMED TO RENEGE ON PREVIOUS WHITEHOUSE-CHATCHAI AGREEMENTS AS TO THE STRUCTURE AND NUMBERS OF THE RESIDUAL FORCE.

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--THE THAIS IMPLIED THAT QUICK AGREEMENT ON THE  
"GENERAL PRINCIPLES" WAS NECESSARY TO AVOID A MARCH  
20 SHUTDOWN OF US OPERATIONS.

WHEN THE AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED THAT THE US MUST NOW DEVELOP  
PULLOUT PLANS TO PREPARE FOR ALL CONTINGENCIES, A SOME-  
WHAT STARTLED ANAND REPLIED THAT THE QUESTION OF CLOSING  
DOWN THE INSTALLATIONS WAS "PREMATURE." (SECRET)  
BANGKOK 2395, 2/4 (EXDIS).

## 2. PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS COLD SHOULDER COMMUNIST APPEAL

THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS ISSUED A STATEMENT JANUARY 31  
CALLING UPON THE SOCIALISTS TO JOIN IN AN "ALLIANCE OF  
THE LEFT." THE SOCIALISTS' RESPONSE CAME FEBRUARY 3  
WHEN SOARES REAFFIRMED THAT HIS PARTY WOULD CONTINUE TO  
MAINTAIN A COMPLETELY "AUTONOMOUS POSITION" IN RELATION  
TO THE COMMUNISTS, AS WELL AS TO PARTIES OF THE RIGHT.  
EMBASSY LISBON ALSO REPORTS THAT, DESPITE COMMUNIST  
PARTY COMPLICITY IN THE ABORTIVE NOVEMBER 25 COUP, THE  
MILITARY AND DEMOCRATIC PARTIES WILL APPARENTLY ALLOW  
THE COMMUNISTS TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE  
GOVERNMENT UNTIL THE ELECTIONS. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON  
776, 771.

## 3. ITALIAN SOCIALISTS HOLD KEY TO MORO'S PLANS

EMBASSY ROME NOTES THAT MORO'S EFFORTS TO FORM A GOVERN-  
MENT HAVE REACHED A CRUCIAL STAGE, WITH SUCCESS OR  
FAILURE EXPECTED BY THIS WEEKEND. IF THE SOCIALISTS  
ACCEPT THE PROPOSALS OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (DC):

--MORO WILL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO REPORT SUCCESS TO  
LEONE AND PROCEED TO FORM AN ALL-DC GOVERNMENT.

--THE DC COULD COME UNDER PRESSURE FROM ITS OWN  
CENTER AND RIGHT FORCES FOR "SELLING OUT" THE  
GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC PLAN.

A REJECTION BY THE SOCIALISTS, HOWEVER, COULD LEAD:  
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--TO A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN PARLIAMENT WHICH THE  
MORO-LA MALFA GOVERNMENT WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY  
LOSE, RESULTING IN EARLY ELECTIONS; OR

--TO LEONE'S NOMINATION OF SOMEONE ELSE WITHIN THE  
DC, PERHAPS ANDRETTI, TO FORM THE GOVERNMENT.

EMBASSY COMMENT: EVEN IF MORO SUCCEEDS IN FORMING AN ALL-DC GOVERNMENT, MOST OBSERVERS NOW DOUBT THAT IT

COULD LAST MORE THAN A FEW MONTHS. (CONFIDENTIAL) ROME 1916, 2/4. -

4. SAUDIS UNDERWRITE \$100 MILLION OF MOROCCAN ARMS PURCHASES

EMBASSY JIDDA CONFIRMS THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAS GIVEN MOROCCO \$100 MILLION TO BUY ARMS FROM THE WEST, WITH THE MOROCCANS APPARENTLY PREPARED TO TURN TO THE US FOR AT LEAST PART OF THE SAUDI-FINANCED PURCHASES.

MEANWHILE, EMBASSY RABAT REPORTS THE CURRENT MOROCCAN MILITARY SWEEP IS PROCEEDING DELIBERATELY TO GIVE A CHANCE TO MEDIATION EFFORTS. THE MOROCCANS REPORTEDLY THINK THE ALGERIANS WOULD JUMP AT THE SLIGHTEST FACE-SAVING DEVICE TO RESCUE THEM FROM THEIR PRESENT IMBROGLIO.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE MOROCCAN RESISTANCE TO BARGAINING AND CONCESSIONS APPEARS FIRM, MAKING FORMULATION OF A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE PACKAGE DIFFICULT. (SECRET) RABAT 621, JIDDA 833, 2/5, (LIMDIS)

5. CALLAGHAN NETTLED BY ICELAND'S REFUSAL OF UK OFFER

FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN CALLED IN THE AMBASSADORS FROM THE NATO COUNTRIES FEBRUARY 4 TO REVIEW THE FISH-ERIES DISPUTE. IN THE MEETING CALLAGHAN:

--DECLARED ICELAND HAD REJECTED THE LATEST BRITISH SECRET

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PROPOSALS ON FISHING LIMITS;

--WONDERED IF THE ICELANDERS WERE CAPABLE OF REACHING AN AGREEMENT GIVEN THEIR INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION;

--EMPHASIZED BRITISH FLEXIBILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE; AND

--REPORTED THE TRAWLER FLEET WILL RESUME NORMAL FISHING IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS FEBRUARY 5. (CONFIDENTIAL) LONDON 1805, 2/4. KISSINGER

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